(b) whether Government have decided to widen the sphere and increase the amount of such aid during the year, 1992; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) In the last 5 years, Indian aid to Nepal has amounted to Rs. 67 crores. It is being used for projects in telecommunications, health, education, horticulture, transport, irrigation, power, supply of drinking water, road construction and industrial estates.

Over the past 5 years, Indo-Bhutanese cooperation has been further intensified. Indian aided projects in Bhutan included hydro-power projects, road construction, telecommunications, industrial plants, hospitals, rural and dairy development projects, etc. Indian aid to Bhutan over this period was more than Rupees 296 crores.

(b) and (c) During the visit of Prime Minister G. P. Koirala of Nepal to India from December 5—10, 1991, several treaties/agreements in trade transit, cooperation in controlling trade, cooperation in agriculture and in science and technology, education and culture were signed. It was agreed to strengthen cooperation in industrial Joint ventures, in agro-industries and in civil aviation and tourism. A number of key decisions were taken to expedite studies of various hydel projects, and for co-operation in flood control, flood protection, etc. It was also decided to take up a number of new Indian-aid projects in public health, communications and telecommunications. The studies necessary for implementing these and the other agreements and decisions reached are being undertaken. Indian aid to Nepal is likely to increase once the project parameters are finalised and their implementation begins.

India and Bhutan have held discussions on Bhutan's 7th Five Year Plan (to be launched in July, 1992). The specific schemes/projects to be taken up under Indian aid during 1992 are to be finalised soon. The quantum of Indian aid to Bhutan in thus likely to increase in 1992.

Temples in Pakistan

3276. SHRI SHABBIR AHMED SALARIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of temples in Pakistan;

(b) what is their condition;

(c) whether there is any party in Pakistan which espouses demolition of temples in Pakistan;

(d) if so, the letails thereof;

(e) whether the Government of India have taken up question of upkeep of temples in Pakistan; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The exact number and condition of all the temples in Pakistan is not known.

(c) to (f) The maintenance and preservation of places of religious worship in Pakistan is essentially the responsibility of the Government of Pakistan.

Area of J and K under Pakistani Occupation

3277. SHRI SHABBIR AHMAD SALARIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any area of J&K under occupation of Pakistan; if so, the details thereof?

(b) what is the estimated population of that area; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government so far on its own and also internationally to get the same vacated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The area of the Indian State of Jammu and Kashmir under the illegal occupation Pakistan since 1947-48 is approximately 30,200 sq. miles (78,218 sq. kms.)

(b) The population is estimated at 2.55 million.

(c) Government have on numerous occassions through the years tried to have this matter resolved, including through discussions with Pakistan in 1951,1953, 1955, 1960 and 1962-63. Efforts for a settlement were also made at Tashkent in 1966 and at Simla in 1972.

Government are committed to the Simla Agreement under which all differences with Pakistan are to be resolved peacefully through bilateral negotiations.

Right of fishing under Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement

3278. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the then External Affairs Minister, while laying the Indo-Sri Lankan Agreement of 1974 on the Table of the House on 23rd July, 1974 had stated "that in concluding the 1974 Agreement the rights of fishing, pilgrimage and navigation which India and Sri Lanka have enjoyed in the past have been fully safeguarded for the future and the fishermen were free to fish even round about Kachchativu;"

(b) whether the traditional rights of fishing of Indian fishermen was taken away under 1976 Agreement; and;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to give wide publicity to terms of agreement warning Indian fishermen that they should not fish around Kachchativu after 1976 Agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (C) The maritime boundary between Indian and Sri Lanka was demarcated over its entire length by the Agreements of 1974 and 1976. The External Affairs Minister while laying the Agreement of 1974 on the Table of the House on 23 July, 1974 stated *inter alia* that "in concluding this Agreement, the rights of fishing, pilgrimage and of navigation which both sides have enjoyed in the past have been fully safeguarded for the future". While laying the Agreement of 1974 on the Table of the house on 24 March, 1976, he stated *inter alia*, that "the two countries shall exercise full sovereignty and absolute jurisdiction on their side of the maritime boundary, Both countries have agreed that after he determination of the maritime boundary, fising vessels and fishermen of one counry shall not engage in fishing in the waters of the other" According to these Agreements, the island of Kachchativu lies on the Sri Lanka side of the International Boundary Line. The Agreements fully safeguard the traditional rights of our fishermen which include the right of access to Kachchativu for resting, drying of nets and for attending the annual St. Antony's festival, when it is held. The Agreemets have been given wide publicity by Government.

Setting up of sponge iron plant by M/s Prakash Industries

3279. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage stake of share capital in M/s. Prakash Industries Limited, 5, Rajindra Place, New Delhi held by All India Financial Institutions, by banks, mutual funds,